GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3224
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2001
FINANCIAL AID FOR MERITORIOUS PLAYERS
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any provision for the development of meritorious players of national and international level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the rules and criteria being followed for providing financial aid to such players?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a) to (c): There is a `Scheme for Assisting Promising Sports persons and Supporting Personnel` under which a package of assistance upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs in a year is provided to promising sports persons based on the chances of their getting medal(s) in the coming Olympics and other International Sports Events. The assistance is provided for training and participation in tournaments abroad, equipment, scientific support and training and participation in tournaments in the country.

According to the criteria laid down in the scheme, the assistance is provided only to promising sports persons who have equaled or excelled the existing national record or is a Gold Medallist of last National Championship or is Medallist of Asian/Commonwealth Games/Afro-Asian Games/Olympic Games/World Championship in the relevant category, that is, Senior/Junior/Sub-junior in different sports disciplines. For team events, assistance will be provided based on an objective assessment of the performance in the National Championship. The Sports persons eligible for assistance should not be more than 25 years in age, provided that

(i) For sports like Shooting, Golf, Billiards & Snooker, Chess and Yachting, the age limit may be relaxed upto 35 years.

(ii) For sports persons winning medals in international events last held, upper age limit may be suitably relaxed.